

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a discrimination apparatus of the invention, a banknote or another paper as an object of discrimination is irradiated with ultraviolet radiation from an array of multiple ultraviolet-emitting LEDs. The ultraviolet radiation passes through a visible radiation block filter and is focused onto a preset site of the banknote by a lens. Multiple photodiodes are used to measure the transmitted light of ultraviolet radiation and the fluorescence, which is excited by the ultraviolet radiation from the banknote. The discrimination apparatus of the invention discriminates counterfeit banknotes from genuine banknotes, based on the observed pattern of the transmitted light over a preset range of the banknote. The technique of the invention desirably enhances the accuracy of discrimination in the discrimination apparatus that discriminates counterfeit banknotes from genuine banknotes.